7. (Reiterated) The method of Claim 6, wherein the composition is administered to the mammal at a dosage so as to provide 0.5 to 2.0 mg/kg of fibronectin polypeptide, based on the weight of the asthma sufferer.

9. (Reiterated) The method of Claim 1, wherein the composition is administered prior to exposure to an allergen to which the asthma sufferer is hypersensitive.

11. (Reiterated) The method of Claim 1, wherein the composition is administered to the mammal after exposure to an allergen to which said mammal is hypersensitive.

12. (Twice amended) A method for the treatment of allergic asthma comprising:

identifying a mammal suffering from allergic asthma; and

administering to the mammal a soluble fibronectin polypeptide capable of binding to the α4 subunit of VLA-4, in an amount effective to provide inhibition of late phase response to an allergen to which the sufferer is hypersensitive or to provide decreased airway hypersensitivity in said mammal following allergen challenge.

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13. (Twice amended) The method of Claim 12, wherein the soluble fibronectin polypeptide comprises an EILDV motif (SEQ ID NO.: 16).

17. (Reiterated) The method of Claim 12, wherein the composition is administered at a dosage so as to provide from 0.05 to 5.0 mg/kg of polypeptide, based on the weight of the asthma sufferer.

18. (Reiterated) The method of Claim 17, wherein the composition is administered at a dosage so as to provide 1.0-2.0 mg/kg of polypeptide, based on the weight of the asthma sufferer.

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26. (Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the soluble fibronectin polypeptide comprises an EILDV motif (SEQ ID NO.: 16).

27. (Reiterated) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the soluble fibronectin polypeptide comprises an alternatively spliced non-type III connecting segment.

28. (Reiterated) The method of Claim 12, wherein the soluble fibronectin polypeptide comprises an alternatively spliced non-type III connecting segment.

29. (Reiterated) The method of Claim 12, wherein the mammal is a human.

30. (Reiterated) The method of Claim 1, wherein the composition is administered to the mammal at the time or immediately after allergen exposure.

31. (Reiterated) The method of Claim 1, wherein the composition is administered to the mammal between the early phase and late phase response.

32. (Reiterated) The method of Claim 12, wherein the composition is administered to the mammal prior to exposure to an allergen to which the asthma sufferer is hypersensitive.

33. (Reiterated) The method of Claim 12, wherein the composition is administered to the mammal at the time or immediately after allergen exposure.

34. (Reiterated) The method of Claim 12, wherein the composition is administered to the mammal between the early phase and late phase response.

35. (Reiterated) The method of Claim 12, wherein the composition is administered to the mammal after allergen exposure.

36. (Reiterated) The method of Claim 12, wherein the composition is administered intravenously.

37. (Reiterated) The method of Claim 12, wherein the composition is administered in the form of an aerosol by inhalation. --

In the Abstract:

Replace the abstract currently in the application with the following rewritten abstract:

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-- A method for the treatment of allergic asthma is disclosed. The method comprises administering to a mammal a composition including a soluble fibronectin polypeptide. --